

Utah Children's Justice Symposium/ Utah Prosecution Council Domestic Violence Conference 2015

2015 **DRAFT** Symposium Agenda

Monday, June 8, 2015

10:00 am – 6:00 pm

Registration and Information

Symposium Registration Table, Cliff Lodge Ballroom Lobby

General Session

12:00 Noon – 2:00 pm

Cliff Lodge Ballroom

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Sean D. Reyes, Utah Attorney General

Keynote

Laughing: Just for the Health of It
Karen Vadino

Humor and laughing offer important benefit throughout our lives. This presentation will assist participants to learn how to reduce stress and be healthier through looking at life with humor. It is designed to explore the impact of humor on our self-concept, our relationships, our work, our stress management, and our health.

Announcements

Tracey Tabet, Utah Children's Justice Center Program

2:00 pm – 2:15 pm

Break

2:15 pm - 3:45 pm

Breakout Session 1

1. **Mike Bleak**

Emotional Survival as a Child Abuse Investigator

In 2007, Detective Mike Bleak was diagnosed with severe Post Traumatic Stress Disorder following a fatal car crash he was involved in. At the time he was a member of the Iron County Multi-Disciplinary Team working closely with the Children's Justice Center and everything which goes along with that duty. Mike has faced this challenge head on and still devotes much of his time to the investigation of child and sexual abuse related investigation. Along this path Mike has gained a firsthand perspective on Post Traumatic Stress. The day to day investigation of traumatic cases involving children takes a toll on all of us. Add PTSD to the equation and a whole new set of challenges arise. Mike has gained a lot of insight in the past 8 years to facing those challenges and coming out on top. This presentation is meant to share personal strategies and insights from an investigator in the trenches that faces these challenges every day and has found a way to function successfully both professionally and personally.
(Repeated in BO4 on Tuesday)

2. **Donna Kelly**
Justin Boardman

Trauma-Informed Victim Interviews: The How To's

West Valley City Police Department and the Utah Prosecution Council have created and implemented a new protocol for sexual assault cases incorporating the principles of the neurobiology of trauma. This presentation focusses on the how-to's of doing a trauma-informed victim interview and will include video clips from real sexual assault interviews.
(Repeated in BO2)

3. **Tiffany Massey**

VINE: Victim Information and Notification Everyday

Victims have the right to know! Utah VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday) is a statewide automated system that makes it possible. Manually contacting victims can be challenging and is a drain on staff resources. Utah

VINE helps keep communities safe and informed by providing crime victims and victim survivors' access to information about an offender's custody status and notifying them about any changes of an incarcerated offender in all Utah prison and jail facilities. In this session, learn how VINE began and how it works (there's an app for that!). Most importantly, learn how victims, victim survivors, the community and YOU will benefit from its use.
(Repeated in BO2)

4. **Chelsea Smith** *Acquiescent Adolescents: Understanding and Interviewing Compliant Victims*
In this workshop, we will cover the characteristics and complexities of cases involving compliant victims. This session will also include an interactive group discussion on strategies and tips for interviewing these children in order to work toward the best possible outcome both for the child and the case.
(Repeated in BO2)
5. **ICAC Task Force** *ICAC: Investigating Social Media Cases*
This presentation will focus on investigating "social media" cases. It will provide information regarding specific procedures, processes and tools necessary to insure complete and successful investigations.
(Repeated in BO2)
6. **Karen Hansen, MD** *Sex Trafficking of Children – Let's Put On the Brakes*
This presentation will be an overview of Sex Trafficking of Children, including risk factors, recognition and evaluation. It will also focus on the health care needs of victims of sex trafficking. Although the presentation will be aimed at medical providers, it will also be pertinent for others who work in this area and with these victims.
7. **Prof. Don Strassberg** *Healthy Sexuality for Adolescents*
There is little doubt that our culture is more highly sexualized than has ever been the case. Our movies, TV, books, and music constantly bombard us with sexual content. How are we supposed to integrate all of this into a meaningful perspective on what healthy sex should look like in our lives? As difficult as this challenge is for adults, it's even a more daunting task for adolescents. This presentation will present some ideas on how to think about what constitutes healthy sex for adolescents and adults as well as discuss contemporary phenomenon (e.g., sexting) that can compromise our efforts to achieve healthy sexuality for ourselves and those we counsel.

3:45 pm – 4:00 pm Break

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm **Breakout Session 2**

1. **Karen Vadino** *All Stressed Up and No One to Choke*
This stress management workshop is designed to help participants recognize stressors, become aware of their own personal stress levels and discover some healthy and effective methods to reduce stress. Time management and humor are discussed as methods of stress management. A personal stress level assignment and plan for healthy stress management will be the outcome of this training.
(Repeated in BO3 on Tuesday)
2. **Donna Kelly
Justin Boardman** *Trauma-Informed Victim Interviews: The How To's*
(Repeat – See Description in BO1)
3. **Tiffany Massey** *VINE: Victim Information and Notification Everyday*
(Repeat – See Description in BO1)
4. **Chelsea Smith** *Acquiescent Adolescents: Understanding and Interviewing Compliant Victims*
(Repeat – See Description in BO1)
5. **ICAC Task Force** *ICAC: Investigating Social Media Cases*
(Repeat – See Description in BO1)
6. **SWAVO** *Victim Advocacy Presentation: Advocacy in Indian Country*
Details to Follow
7. _____

Tuesday, June 9, 2015

7:00 am – 8:15 am
Cliff Lodge Ballroom

Breakfast

(Provided for registered Symposium Participants and guests with tickets)

7:30 am – 5:30 pm

Registration and Information

Symposium Registration Table, Cliff Lodge Ballroom Lobby

8:30 am – 10:15 am

Keynote

The Disappearance of Susan Powell:

“If I die, it might not be an accident...”

Rich Anderson

On December 7, 2009, Susan Powell, wife and mother of two small boys, disappeared from her West Valley City, Utah home. Her body has never been found. In February 2012, Susan's husband, Josh, during a supervised visit in Washington, attacked his two sons and then set his house on fire, killing himself and the two boys. This presentation will focus on the multi-jurisdictional and multi-disciplinary investigations and the challenges presented by the competing interests and implications for the criminal investigation, child welfare system, domestic violence prevention and awareness.

Award Ceremony

Utah's Attorney General's Children's Justice Center MDT Award

Lifetime Achievement Awards

Rocky Rognlie Memorial Training Scholarship Awards

Announcements

10:15 am – 10:30 am

Break

10:30 am – 12:00 noon

Breakout Session 3

1. **Detective Ellis Maxwell**
West Valley City PD

Was there really any hope?

A brief overview of the active three-year investigation on the **Susan Powell Case** will be presented with an emphasis on the children's behavior, exposure, and relationship throughout the investigation. The presenter will provide insight, initiate discussion and present ideas for developing future preventative plans.

2. **Justin Fitzsimmons**
and Ali Wolf

Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Domestic Trafficking Cases: Do's and Don'ts in the Courtroom
Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS) and Search High Tech Crimes will present a workshop adapted from GEMS' nationally recognized Train-the-Trainer curriculum. While open to all audiences, this workshop is specifically designed to provide attorneys and courtroom personnel with information needed to work with victims and address the crime of CSE and domestic trafficking of youth. The presentation will create a foundational knowledge around working CSE and domestic trafficking cases by addressing do's and don'ts in the courtroom. This workshop will pinpoint best practices in identifying and engaging with victims, as well as prosecuting traffickers. Attendees will receive an overview of concrete tools that can be utilized by attorneys and courtroom personnel to appropriately and effectively respond to the commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking of youth.

3. **Brooks Keeshin, MD**

Acute Stress Reactions in Children and Teens: Separating Fact from Fiction

This presentation will review how children and adolescents react to traumatic events and the risks of developing long term mental health problems after a trauma. It will include a discussion of what types of early interventions can help improve the child's distress and decrease the risk of developing problems such as PTSD after trauma.

4. **Heather Stewart**

Rapport and Narratives: Telling the Story of What Happened

Rapport should not be considered a single stage of the forensic interview but rather a process that occurs throughout. Students will learn effective ways to build and maintain rapport. The importance of eliciting narratives in forensic interviews will be highlighted. Students will learn effective ways to encourage children to provide as detailed narratives as they are able throughout the forensic interview.

5. **Beth Haggett** Self-Care for the Helping Professional: Preventing and Healing Secondary Trauma
This presentation will focus on how stress and trauma affect the brain and nervous system. It will present how mind-body medicine can help alleviate stress from secondary trauma and how simple self-care techniques can prevent cumulative stress from causing debilitating effects both to physiology and to lifestyle. There will also be an opportunity to consider ways to create a life outside of work that is nurturing to body and soul. This session will be interactive and experiential.
6. **Kristen Howell** Getting Her from "Going" to "Gone"
Advocates, first responders, investigators and prosecutors are routinely frustrated by a battered woman's difficulty terminating her abusive relationship. This session will provide specific examples, together with actual "scripts" (word-choice examples) law enforcement and advocates can use to get a battered woman from 'going' to 'gone.' Participants will examine ways to facilitate and prepare a woman for a safe outcome and ultimately ways to end the abuse.
7. **Karen Vadino** All Stressed Up and No One to Choke
(Repeat – See Description in BO1)
- 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm** **Lunch**
Cliff Lodge Ballroom
(Provided for registered Symposium Participants and guests with tickets)
- 1:15 pm – 2:00 pm** **Keynote** **The MacNeill Case: A Family Shattered from Within**
Alexis Michele Somers, M.D.

Michele MacNeill's daughters knew their mother was murdered by their father Martin MacNeill. They fought for justice through the criminal justice system for several years before a jury convicted MacNeill of murder. Alexis Somers shares her long and sometimes frustrating journey as a victim, and the triumph and tragedy she and her sisters found along the way.
- 2:15 pm – 3:45 pm** **Breakout Session 4**
1. **Mike Bleak** Emotional Survival as a Child Abuse Investigator
(Repeat – See Description in BO1 on Monday)
2. **Matthew Long and Chris Pérez** Avoiding the Unjust Acquittal: Why we lose cases with strong evidence and how to prevent it. (Part 1)
Matt Long and Chris Pérez are returning to the Symposium after providing a popular case study last year. Participants in this session will learn the pitfalls of false dichotomies, investigative mistakes and inadequate corroboration in criminal cases. Enhanced techniques will be discussed to best manage cases that have strong evidence to ensure a conviction. Also, techniques will be shared to best manage cases lacking in evidence to produce the best chance of a conviction. (Continued in BO5)
3. **Michelle Busch-Upwall** What's Your Digital Landscape?
This session addresses the two faces of technology: one side displays what is good, while the other shows the dark side, and includes social networks, photo sharing, apps, and the variety of ways people communicate with friends, family, and sometimes online predators. Come ready to think about how technology has changed over time - from how today's parents grew up "back then" versus how today's teens are growing up now... Learn how to **drive** safely on the Internet highway. (Repeated in BO5)
4. **Ali Wolf** Learning to Work with Commercially Sexually Exploited (CSE) and Domestically Trafficked Youth (Part 1)
Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS), the nation's largest service provider to commercially sexually exploited and domestically trafficked girls and young women, will present this two-part workshop adapted from its nationally recognized Train-the-Trainer curriculum. The presentation will include an overview of commercial sexual exploitation (CSE) and domestic trafficking through addressing perception and language, identifying risk factors, and discussing the impact this exploitation has on youth. Participants will have the opportunity to examine the stages of change model and how it can be utilized to engage with youth exploited in the commercial sex industry. This training is designed to provide participants with an overview of the knowledge and skills needed to engage with CSE and domestically trafficked youth. (Continued in BO5)

5. **Justin Fitzsimmons** *Cyberbullying: Sexting, Sexploitation and Sextortion*
Technology plays a role in many aspects of bullying today. This presentation describes the different characteristics of traditional bullying versus bullying that is facilitated by technology. It also explores the roles of sexting, sexploitation and Sextortion in Cyberbullying. The presentation also examines current trends, studies and case law on cyberbullying.
6. **Chad Grunander, Jared Perkins and Sam Pead** *Martin MacNeill and the Almost Perfect Murder*
State vs. Martin MacNeill in Utah County was one of the first Utah jury trials to be streamed live from the courtroom. Challenges arose during each step in the criminal justice system after this horrific DV homicide: investigation of the case, the decision to file charges, the pre-trial proceedings and the jury trial. This session will highlight the evidence the jury relied on to convict MacNeill but will also address some of what the jury wasn't allowed to hear.
7. **John Wilkinson** *Working with Recanting Victims*
Victims of domestic violence frequently recant their initial statements to the police about what occurred during the crime, later claiming that they lied out of anger or jealousy, they were the initial aggressors, or they minimized or excused the offenders' actions and their own injuries. Whatever the reasons, the prosecutor must be prepared to protect the victim and to hold the abuser accountable by implementing strategies that will advance both of these goals. This presentation will explore the reasons that victims recant or refuse to cooperate with prosecution, identify strategies that will encourage victim cooperation and permit successful prosecution even when the victim does not cooperate, suggest ways to prevent victim intimidation and to expose and exploit it when it occurs, and identify and discuss the ethical implications arising when the victim recants or refuses to cooperate.

3:45 pm – 4:00 pm Break

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm Breakout Session 5

1. **Kristen Howell** *Domestic Violence: The Impact of Violence on Kids*
Toxic stress is a term used with increased frequency when discussing the impact of witnessing domestic violence. Toxic stress impairs a child's ability to attach, to learn, and to have social emotional health. This course will provide an easy understanding of the impact of living with long-term violence and will help law enforcement, therapists, and advocates recognize how to decrease the toxic stressors that stand in the way of a child's success.
(Repeated in BO6 – Wednesday)
2. **Matthew Long and Chris Pérez** *Avoiding the Unjust Acquittal: Why we lose cases with strong evidence and how to prevent it. (Part 2)*
(Continued – See Description in BO4)
3. **Michelle Busch-Upwall** *What's Your Digital Landscape?*
(Repeat – See Description in BO4)
4. **Ali Wolf** *Learning to Work with Commercially Sexually Exploited (CSE) and Domestically Trafficked Youth (Part 2)*
(Continued – See Description in BO4)
5. **John Wilkinson** *Identifying the Predominant Aggressor and Evaluating Lethality*
One challenge for first responders to a domestic disturbance where both parties are injured is identifying the predominant aggressor. Police and prosecutors must also be able to determine the level of danger facing a victim. This presentation will emphasize the importance of contextual analysis in evaluating criminal responsibility at the arrest, charging, pre-trial, and sentencing phases. Such analysis will help to ensure that the dynamics of domestic violence are properly factored into decisions about arrest, charging, plea negotiations, and sentencing, and will enhance the quality of justice for those who have been victims of abuse. The presentation will also discuss the importance of danger assessments and best practices in lethality evaluation.
6. **SWAVO** *Victim Advocacy Presentation: Advocacy in Indian Country*
Details to Follow
7. **Rich Anderson and Ellis Maxwell** *Round-Table Regarding the Susan Powell Case: What worked, What didn't, What to do differently?*
Details to Follow

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

7:00 am – 8:15 am
Cliff Lodge Ballroom

Breakfast

(Provided for registered Symposium Participants and guests with tickets)

7:30 am – 1:00 pm

Registration and Information

Symposium Registration Table, Cliff Lodge Ballroom Lobby

8:30 am – 10:00 am

Keynote

Advocating for Victims of Interpersonal Violence and the Federal Response to Mass Casualty Situations **Kelly Bradford**

Cliff Lodge Ballroom

This presentation will examine the effects of interpersonal violence on families and talk about lessons learned from the presenter's own experiences as a law enforcement officer, a father, and as a Victim Specialist for the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Announcements

10:00 am – 10:30 am

Break: We have added some extra time to this break to facilitate the Hotel Room Check-Out policy.

10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Breakout Session 6

1. Justin Fitzsimmons

Ethical Considerations in Social Networking Sites: "What Happens When I Post That?"

This presentation describes the role of social networking sites in today's culture and their prevalence in the lives of both adults and children. The unique responsibilities of those in the medical, legal, law enforcement, victim services and advocacy fields are described to highlight common pitfalls of social media use by professionals. The audience sees examples pulled from various media sites that could cause ethical issues. Hypotheticals are given to encourage audience participation and interaction in determining whether social media use crosses an ethical boundary. Privacy issues are also addressed.

2. Toni Laskey

Sentinel Injuries: Recognizing the symptoms of the canary in the coal mine before it's too late

There is an increasing awareness of several important injuries as "sentinel injuries", that is, a warning of much worse things to come for children who are being abused. These injuries are often not serious injuries but recognizing them can prevent worse injury or even death in a child. This presentation will focus on what investigators and the judicial system need to understand about why these injuries are important as a key to child protection.

3. Kristen Howell

Domestic Violence: The Impact of Violence on Kids

(Repeat – See Description in BO5)

4. Heather Stewart

Peer Review: How To

During this workshop participants will learn different options for conducting peer review. Tools will be shared and common areas of feedback will be addressed. Participants will also have the opportunity to practice providing feedback on interview transcripts.

5. Donna Kelly

"I Hate This Case!": Working with Reluctant Victims

Have you experienced the frustration of trying to help a domestic violence victim that is reluctant to participate in the legal system? The presentation includes video clips and discussion of the case involving NFL player Ray Rice as a starting point for discussion of understanding the dynamics in these important but challenging cases and how to pursue the investigation and prosecution of a DV case without the victim's participation.

6. Rob Parrish

The Whole Truth – Confronting Irresponsible Experts in Child Physical Abuse and Homicide Cases

In this presentation, participants will learn how irresponsible expert witnesses are having a negative impact on child protection and criminal child abuse litigation. Ethical guidelines and rules applicable to all *physician expert witnesses* will be illustrated, along with examples of how IDE's regularly violate those rules. Finally, suggestions will be made as to how attorneys can effectively confront and cross-examine this small group of irresponsible expert witnesses.

7. _____

12:00 pm

Adjourn